

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The R' sequences for the IDR MAP may be selected, for example, from the IDR sequences discussed above such as SEQ ID NOS: 27-30. Especially useful R' sequences for the IDR MAP are those that contain a minimum of 7 amino acid residues defined by two cysteine residues. According to one example of the detection MAP, the R' sequence of the IDR MAP construct may have (or include) a consensus sequence represented by

$X_1G C X_4 X_5 X_6 X_7 X_8 C X_{10} T$ (SEQ. ID NO: 31)

wherein X_1 is W, I or F;

X_4 is S, A or Q;

X_5 is G, D, F, W or N;

X_6 is K, R, M, S, or A;

X_7 is A, V or Q;

X_8 is V, or I; and

X_{10} is Y, H or R.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 32, with the following rewritten paragraph:

This panel included 54 sera from various monkeys experimentally or naturally infected with SIVs, and include all SIV strains for which envelope V3 and IDR sequences were available. In general, viral DNA from a number of these samples was amplified while others were only serologically confirmed by EIA and western blot. ~~Table 1~~ Table 2 below shows the SIV strains included in the panel: 6 samples from sooty mangabeys, 10 from macaques (4 rhesus and 6 stump-tail) accidentally infected with SIVsm, 9 from African green monkeys infected with

SIVagm; 4 specimens from sykes monkeys infected with SIVsyk; 3 specimens from chimpanzees infected with SIVcpz (SIVcpzGab, SIVcpzAnt and SIVcpzUS); 2 from macaque monkeys infected with SIVl'Hoest and SIVsun; 4 from colobus monkeys infected with SIVcol; 8 from mandrills, 1 from a drill infected with SIVmnd and SIVdrl, 2 from red capped mangabeys infected with SIVrcm; 4 from talapoin monkeys infected with SIVtal, and one specimen from a De Brazza monkey likely infected with SIVdeb, based on serological results. Since the assay is intended to test humans for SIV-like infections, two specimens from humans occupationally infected with SIVsm were also included in the panel.

Please replace the Sequence Listing with the attached Replacement Sequence Listing.